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THE SECTOR
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Philanthropy
Delaware



LIVE UNITED
United Way of Delaware

June XX, 2020

John Carney
Governor
Carvel State Office Building
820 N. French Street
12th Floor
Wilmington, DE 19801

RE: Request for Federal Stimulus Support to Delaware Nonprofits for Personal Protective Equipment and Cleaning Supplies

Dear Governor Carney:

We are writing to thank you for leading our state through the COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate your consideration of the health and safety of Delawareans as a priority in your decision-making process regarding reopening our state entities. We are grateful for the swift actions of Congress in passing the CARES Act, which established the Coronavirus Relief Fund providing financial support to states and local governments for COVID-19 related expenses. While we recognize the limitations set forth by the U.S. Treasury Department regarding use of these funds, we believe Delaware's nonprofit organizations meet the threshold to qualify for support through the state for COVID-19 related expenses.¹ Thus, we respectfully request that you consider allocating federal funds to Delaware's nonprofit organizations to cover the increased costs of COVID-19 expenses, including PPE, as many other states have.

As you know, the Delaware nonprofit sector has navigated the impact of continuing to provide services, but at much higher levels, while they experienced an interruption in their lines of business that provide revenue. This was not a choice. They incurred sizeable expenses in order to not only meet increased demand for services, but also to pay for critical, required personal protective equipment. Our nonprofits did not let Delawareans down. Thus, we believe it would be appropriate for the state to support nonprofits by dedicating federal stimulus funding to the purchase and/or reimbursement of costs associated with critical personal protective equipment (PPE), which will comply with the guidelines outlined for phase 1 and 2 reopening. Given these costs are specifically associated with COVID-19 response and recovery, they are acceptable expenses on which to spend Coronavirus Relief Funds.

Across the nation, numerous states have utilized their Coronavirus Relief Funds to implement emergency relief for nonprofits and small businesses to access the support they require to continue

¹ [Coronavirus Relief Fund Guidance for State, Territorial, Local and Tribal Governments](#)

to serve. Given these states are also navigating the rules established by Treasury to make this a reality, we respectfully request that Delaware prioritize the needs of the nonprofit sector by establishing a program using federal funds to access necessary PPE and cleaning supplies to meet your reopening guidance.

There are two potential opportunities that could be smooth and efficient for both the state and nonprofits:

1. The state can deploy PPE purchased at the contracted rate from state-approved vendors to nonprofits throughout the state, or
2. The state may make the funds available through a grant program to purchase the necessary supplies at the state contracted rate.

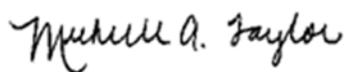
While the most critical needs of nonprofits are being partially met by the DELAWARE COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE INITIATIVE, ***the philanthropic community simply cannot take on this obligation without partnership from the state.***

Our Delaware nonprofits are rising to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we are optimistic that our state partners are prepared to rise with us. The philanthropic and nonprofit communities jointly stand ready to work with your team to see this to fruition. Thank you for your leadership in this global health crisis and for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully,



Sheila Bravo
President and CEO
DANA



Michelle A. Taylor
President and CEO
United Way of Delaware



Cynthia Pritchard
President and CEO
Philanthropy Delaware



Stuart Comstock-Gay
President and CEO
Delaware Community Foundation

CC: All members of the Delaware General Assembly
Michael Jackson, Director, Office of Management and Budget